

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT MARQUIS CHILDS OP-ED PAGE COLUMN WASHINGTON POST TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24 HEADED "...AND MAKING DR. KISSINGER A CAMPAIGN ISSUE."
2. IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE SHOUTING, AND IN MY OPINION THERE WILL BE PRECIOUS LITTLE SHOUTING BY ANYONE. THAT IS SU-RELY TRUE ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE.
3. IN THE 1964 GOLDWATER CAMPAIGN, THE SLOGAN WAS "A CHOICE NOT AN ECHO," THIS TIME THE RACE BETWEEN GERALD FORD AND RONALD REAGAN HAS BEEN ECHO, ECHO, ECHO. THEY HAVE ECHOED THE CONSERVATISM OF PAST YEARS, COMPETING TO SEE WHO COULD OUT-CONSERVATIVE THE OTHER. IT WAS A DRAW, AS THOSE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE WHO ARE STILL WILLING TO TALK ABOUT IT AFTER THE LONG BORING SURFEIT OF THE CAMPAIGN READILY SAY
4. THERE IS ONE GLARING EXCEPTION. THAT IS WHEN REAGAN CHOSE TO BRING IN FOREIGN POLICY AS AN ISSUE WITH AN ATTACK

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ON DETENTE AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER. IN THE

CRUEST TERMS HE ATTACKED THE FORD ADMINISTRATION AND KISS-
INGER FOR GIVING AWAY EVERYTHING AND GETTING NOTHING IN THE

EFFORT TO EASE TENSIONS AND REACH A SALT II AGREEMENT WITH
THE SOVIET UNION.

5. IF THIS IS A FORETASTE OF THE CAMPAIGN TO COME AFTER
THE PRIMARIES, IT IS OMINOUS INDEED. WE HAVE A CHANCE--TO
ME IT SEEMS A BARE CHANCE--TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH THE
SOVIET UNION THAT MAY ABATE THE RUINOUS RACE IN NUCLEAR
ARMAMENTS. THE ALTERNATIVE IS A REVERSION TO THE COLD
WAR, AN ECHO OF WHICH WAS HEARD IN REAGAN'S ATTACK. THAT
IS AN EMPTY EXERCISE THAT CAN ONLY MEAN GREATLY ENLARGED
DEFENSE BUDGET INCREASING THE CHANCES OF A NUCLEAR WAR.

6. THOSE PLOTTING REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN COULD HARDLY HAVE
MISSED THROWING IN KISSINGER. HE IS RAPIDLY BECOMING THE
PRINCIPAL TARGET IN THE POLITICAL SHOOTING GALLERY, WITH
THE FIRE COMING FROM BOTH THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT.

7. IN DENOUNCING HIS CRITICS, KISSINGER CALLED THEIR
ATTACK "REVERSE MCCARTHYISM," A REFERENCE TO THE CHARAC-
TER ASSASSINATION PRACTICED BY JOSEPH MCCARTHY AND
HIS FOLLOWERS IN THE '50S. DURING THAT PERIOD I WROTE AT
LENGTH ABOUT THE EVILS OF MCCARTHYISM. AGAINST THAT
BACKGROUND, LET ME SAY I THINK KISSINGER WAS CORRECT IN
HIS DESCRIPTION AND I SAY THIS KNOWING A BIT ABOUT HIS
ERRORS BOTH IN POLICY AND IN HIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS.

8. TWO INCIDENTS SEEM TO ME TO DOCUMENT THE REVERSE
MCCARTHYISM. KISSINGER WAS ACCUSED OF SHUTTING HIS EYES
TO VIOLATIONS BY THE RUSSIANS OF AGREEMENTS REACHED UNDER
SALT I. HE HAS REPEATEDLY DENIED THIS. MY INQUIRIES WITH
SPECIALISTS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE FIELD HAVE CON-
VINCED ME THAT IF THERE WERE VIOLATIONS THEY WERE BRIEF
AND UNIMPORTANT AND BROUGHT TO AN END WHEN ATTENTION WAS
CALLED TO THEM.

9. THE SECOND INCIDENT INVOLVES THE GIFT OF A RUG (WHAT
ECHOES FROM THE HISS CASE;) TO THE SECRETARY AND A PIECE
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OF DIAMOND JEWELRY TO HIS WIFE. KISSINGER SAYS HE HANDLED
THESE AS THE LAW REQUIRES, TURNING BOTH GIFTS OVER TO THE
GOVERNMENT. I BELIEVE HIM.

10. HOW THE NEW HAMPSHIRE VOTERS ACCEPT THE REAGAN
CHARGES IS IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL. WHAT HE HAS DONE IS TO
FEED THE SUSPICION AND DOUBT, WHICH WAS EXACTLY WHAT
MCCARTHY DID WHEN HE WAS DIRECTING A LARGE SHARE OF HIS

ATTACK AT SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN ACHESON.

11. TODAY A FEW HUNDRED THOUSAND VOTERS, PERHAPS 200,000
SINCE I THINK THE PROPORTION VOTING WILL BE LOWER THAN EVER

BEFORE, WILL GO TO THE POLL AND SEVERAL HUNDRED REPORTERS
WILL WRITE ABOUT THE WINNERS. SURE, IT'S GOOD FOR BUSI-
NESS. EVERY HOTEL AND MOTEL ROOM IS TAKEN.

12. AND IT PUTS WILLIAM LOEB ON NATIONAL TELEVISION SO
THAT PERHAPS EVEN HE CAN FORGET THOSE HEADLINES ABOUT
"GERRY THE JERK" AND "KISSINGER THE KIKE." HIS GREAT PAL
GOV. MELDRIM THOMSON CAN APPEAR WITH HIM AND LOOK LIKE
A STATESMAN WHILE HE EXPRESSES HIS HOPE THAT REAGAN WILL
WIN THE PRIMARY.

13. THIS IS A POOR TIME TO EXPRESS A PREDICTION AND I

HAVE NOT TRAMPED THE ICY BYWAYS AS SO MANY OF MY COLLEAGUES
HAVE DONE. BUT I BELIEVE THAT FORD WILL DO BETTER THAN
MOST OF THE POLLSTERS AND COMMENTATORS READING THE
TINIEST OF TEA LEAVES ARE PREDICTING. THIS IS ANOTHER
WAY OF SAYING THAT I THINK THE PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
HAVE BETTER SENSE THAN THEY ARE CREDITED WITH.

14. ONE MYSTERY REMAINS, AND THAT IS WHY HUNDREDS OF
REPORTERS DO FLOCK UP HERE, BECAUSE, IN MY OPINION,
MOST PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY ARE SO TURNED OFF THAT THEY
DON'T GIVE MUCH OF A DAMN. AS TO THE DEMOCRATIC PACK,
ANY PREDICTIONS ARE THE HEIGHT OF FOLLY AND VOTERS CAN
PICK THOSE WHO LOOK THE NICEST AND TALK THE PRETTIEST.
(END TEXT) INGERSOLL

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